(b) whether it is a fact that a Post Office has been running on ground floor in 11/88, Gita Colony since 1979 and five years lease of the above Post Office expired in 1984;

(a) whether it is also a fact that the owner of the building who is a retired Government servant has been requesting since 1984 for vacation of the said premises on medical grounds for bonafide needs;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not vacating the building so far despite the fact that alternative sites were made available to that Post Office; and

(e) by when Government propose to vacate the said building ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE -OF *THE* MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of Post Offices running in private building in Delhi is 285.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The building could not be vacated because despite best efforts alternative accommodation in the same colony could not be found. Though DDA has allotted a plot of land to the Department for cons-traction of the Post Office building in Gita Colony, construction of post office building on this land could not take place as the land was heavily encroached. The Department is making efforts to get from DDA another alternative plot of the same size and suitability.

(e) Vacation of the present rented building can be considered when an alternative suitable accommodation is found.

Structural Changes to Improve the Telecom Sector

1573. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS toe pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that Government have critically examined the existing Indian Telecom set up and its related issues regarding qualify of structure between DOT and MTNL to know its utility or otherwise in meeting the changing demand in terms of availability and level of service;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the structural changes if any, contemplated by Government in the telecom sector to improve its functioning to meet the changed requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Committee on Re-organisation of Telecom Department are under consideration of the Government.

***City/* Town connected with same Telephone Exchange**

1574. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of cases in which more than one city /town are connected to the same telephone exchange and the calls are treated as local calls; and

(b) what are the norms in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Decision to allow States to Operate Telecom Networks

1575. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBKAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision to allow States to operate telecom' networks;

(b) if so, what has been the response of the State Governments to the decision;

(c) what are the details of the proposals received from the State Governments particularly, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Goa; and

(d) what are the details of the decision taken thereon alongwith the implications thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir, whenever State Governments are setting up big

industrial centres and residential colonies, they can set up their own telecom network in these areas subject to approval of DOT. Such networks can be provided connectivity to the public network through junction lines.

(b) to (d) We have yet to receive any firm proposal.

Inflated Computerised Telephone Bills

1576. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :
SHRI IQBAL SINGH :

will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are receiving a large number of complaints of inflated telephone bills throughout the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of such complaints received in each of the States and Union Territories during the last two years;

(c) how many such complaints were found to be genuine during the said period and what procedure is followed by the government in disposing of the complaints of such inflated bills;

(d) whether it is also a fact that complaints of inflated Telephone bills are being highlighted by the newspapers even from such places where computerisation has been done by Government;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on 'he Table of the House as early as possible.

Telecommunication Facilities to all Panchayats in the Country

1577. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAT.. alias MSEM AFZAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(p.) whether it is a fact that Government h'^ve decided to in'erconnect all Panchayats of India with electronic telecommunication system;

(b) if so, how many blocks and Pan chayats have so far been covered by the electronic telecom-system; and

(c) how many blocks and Panchayats of Bihar, so far have been covered by electro ns telecom-system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) It is a fact that Government have decided to provide tele-pho:- in all Panchayat Villages through.... systems/ open wire lines.

(b) (i) 88610 Panchayats Villages are provided with telephone facility as on 28th February, 1993.

(ii) Information about Blocks is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) (i) 5123 Panchayat Villages are pro vided with telephone facility in Bihar as on 2Sth February, 1993.

(ii) Information about Blocks is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Telephone and Post Office Facilities in Haryana

1578. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the districtwise number of Panchayats in Haryana as on the 28th February, 1993 where telephone and Post office facilities are available;

(b) what time-limit has been prescribed for providing the above facilities in each village Panchayai of the State;

(c) what is the number of such villages in the above village Panchayats, where telegram and telegraphic money order facilities are available and by when these facilities will be made available in those village Panchayats where these facilities are not scif'.and

(d) what are the details of the pro gramme for providing speed post facility in